

VANM145.001APC

416 Rec'd PTO 17 MAR 2000  
PATENT  
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DT A.  
11-10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Vannuffel, et al. )  
Int'l )  
Appl. No. : PCT/BE98/00141 )  
Int'l Filing )  
Date : September 28, 1998 )  
For : GENETIC SEQUENCES, )  
DIAGNOSTIC AND/OR )  
QUANTIFICATION )  
METHODS AND DEVICES )  
FOR THE IDENTIFICATION )  
OF STAPHYLOCOCCI )  
STRAINS )  
Examiner : Unknown )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned U.S. National Phase application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, at line 11, after the Title of the Invention and before the Field of the Invention, please insert --This application is the U.S. National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application PCT/BE98/00141, filed September 28, 1998, which claims priority of European Application 97870146.4, filed September 26, 1997.--.

On page 21, line 1, please delete the word "CLAIMS" and substitute in its place --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--.